INTRODUCTION

CONTINUED.

THE Genus of Plants called *Equiſetum*, or Horſetail, conſtituting a Part of the Order FILICES in the LINNÆAN SYSTEM, together with the two other Genera, the *Iſoetes* and *Pilularia*, are the ſubject of the preſent Sheets.

The Horſetails, of which no more than ſix ſpecies have been diſcovered in Great Britain (by that fondneſs for increaſing the number of Plants which almoſt Univerſally prevailed amongſt the Botaniſts of the laſt ages) have been increaſed to double their real number, by the Addition of imaginary *ſpecies*.

Dillenius, in the third Edition of *Ray's Synopſis*, enumerates twelve ſuppoſed ſpecies; ſix of which, that are varieties only, and not ſpecies, I will here endeavour to point out.

There is a variety of *Equiſetum ſylvaticum*, not unfrequently to be met with by Road-ſides and in Pathways, having the ſecond leaves all turned to one ſide of the firſt leaf or *ſtem*; this happens when the firſt leaf has been trod down, or by ſome Accident ſo bent or broken as to lie flat on the

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